UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/45/266
29 May 1991

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 157

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/45/1013)]

45/266. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/21 of 20 November 1990,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 621 (1988) of 20 September 1988 and 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990 as well as Council resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council established, under its authority, the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Noting that the budgetary estimates for the Mission as contained in the report of the Secretary-General amount to 180,617,000 United States dollars gross (176,868,000 dollars net),

Recognizing that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

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1/ A/45/241/Add.1.

2/ A/45/1011.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Urging all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time, particularly in view of the urgent need for the start-up cost of the operation and its brevity of duration,

Recognizing that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of the Mission,

1. Recalls that, in accordance with Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations, it is the General Assembly that shall consider and approve the budget of the Organization;

2. Approves, in principle, the budgetary estimates proposed by the Secretary-General for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (180,617,000 dollars gross, 176,868,000 dollars net), as contained in his report, 1/ for the mandate period approved by the Security Council in its resolution 690 (1991) and in respect of which the Secretary-General is requested to establish a special account in accordance with paragraph 16 of his report;

3. Decides to appropriate an initial amount of 143 million dollars gross (140 million dollars net), inclusive of the amount of 889,700 dollars authorized with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for pre-implementation expenses under the terms of General Assembly resolution 44/203 of 21 December 1989, for the operation of the Mission in accordance with the implementation timetable set out in paragraph 10 of the report of the Secretary-General;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a detailed performance report for the first six months of the operation to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session and to take all necessary measures to ensure that the operation is administered with the maximum of efficiency and economy, bearing in mind the observations and recommendations contained in paragraphs 10 to 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee; 2/

5. Decides to consider at its forty-sixth session the appropriations required to finance the Mission for the remaining three-month mandate period in the light of the performance report referred to in paragraph 4 of the present resolution;

6. Takes note of the views expressed by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 18 and 19 of his report and acknowledges that the repatriation programme to be carried out by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with its statute, is an essential political element in the settlement proposals without which an impartial referendum could not take place, and calls upon Member States to respond expeditiously to the appeal by the Secretary-General for voluntary contributions in this regard;

7. Adopts the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, as contained in paragraph 8 of its report, in respect of voluntary contributions totalling 34.5 million dollars estimated as the requirements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the repatriation of Western Saharans in accordance with the settlement plan as contained in paragraphs 72 to 74 of the report of the Secretary-General of 18 June 1990 3/ and in paragraphs 34 to 36 of the report of the Secretary-General of 19 April 1991; 4/

8. Takes note of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, contained in paragraph 15 of its report, concerning the high-level posts for the Mission and decides that no more than one Under-Secretary-General and two Assistant Secretaries-General shall be appointed for the Mission;

9. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 143 million dollars gross (140 million dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1989, 1990 and 1991; 5/

10. Decides also that Liechtenstein shall be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 43/232;

11. Decides further that Namibia shall be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (d) of General Assembly resolution 43/232;

12. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 of the present resolution,

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3/ S/21360.

4/ S/22464 and Corr.1.

5/ See resolutions 43/223 A and 45/256 B.

their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 3 million dollars approved for the initial six-month period;

13. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/192 A of 21 December 1989;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara".

76th plenary meeting
17 May 1991